

REMARKS

Claims 11 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 1, 3 to 5, 8 to 10 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Engel in view of Hofer. Claims 2, 6, 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Engel in view of Hofer and further in view of Proudman. Claims 12 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Engel in view of Hofer and Proudman and further in view of Hechler.

Claims 1, 2, 6 to 10, 14 and 16 have been amended. Withdrawn claim 17 has been canceled. Claim 19 has been added.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 112

Claim 7 has been amended to clarify that the speed in claim 7 is the same as in claim 11. Claim 11 is now respectfully submitted as clear. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 is requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3 to 5, 8 to 10 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Engel in view of Hofer. Claims 2, 6, 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Engel in view of Hofer and further in view of Proudman. Claims 12 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Engel in view of Hofer and Proudman and further in view of Hechler.

Engel senses merely the presence or absence of a mark on a sheet.

Hofer is discussed in the Background section of the present application.

Proudman discloses an apparatus for folding flatwork with counters for processing derived clock pulses.

Hechler discloses a buckle plate folding station.

Claim 1 of the present application has been amended to recite:

“sensors detecting a position of the fold relative to markings applied to the printed product; and

an evaluation device connected to the sensors for determining a time lag between two signals of at least one of the sensors, the signals corresponding to a contrast change at the markings.”

Support for the amendment is found for example in the present specification at [0030], which states that the sensors detect alternating dark and light areas, i.e. contrast changes at the edges of the markings, and determine a time lag between the signals.

None of prior art shows signals corresponding to a contrast change at the markings and merely record the number or presence of marks, and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and its dependent claims is respectfully requested. *argument*

#### New Claim 19

New claim 19 has been submitted and support is found in paragraph [0030] of the present specification for example.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and applicant respectfully requests such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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